Flow of Godavari Water

*229. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quantum of water flow of river Godavari has been monitored by the Central Water Commission in 1997-98 and the current year;

(b) what are the comparative flows for these two years;

(c) whether it is a fact that sedimentation has increased in the last 100 miles of the river Godavari in Andhra Pradesh;

(d) whether it is a fact that excess soil run-off has been noticed by the CWC; and

(e) what steps are proposed to protect the watershed areas of the river Godavari from immense soil depletion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The annual flows of river Godavari at Polavaram during 1997-98 and the current year so far are 47,281 and 72,116 million cubic metre respectively.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Observations made by Central Water Commission at Polavaram located in the last 100 mile stretch of the river in Andhra Pradesh has not shown any increase in the sediment load of Godavari river.

(e) Under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, Government of Andhra Pradesh is undertaking soil conservation measures in the direct draining catchments of the Machkund-Sileru, Nizamsagar and Sriramsagar dams on Godavari river. The main objective is to control siltation in the reservoir of these projects through soil and water conservation measures.

Production and Consumption of Pulses

*230. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of pulses during the year 1998 and domestic consumption thereof;

(b) the total quantity of pulses imported from various countries during that period;

(c) whether it is a fact that due to the excess import of pulses, the domestic traders had incurred heavy losses; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The total production of pulses in the country during the year 1998-99 is estimated at 147.8 lakh tonnes. The domestic consumption requirement is estimated at 153 lakh tonnes.

(b) The total quantity of pulses imported during 1997-98 is 659396 metric tonnes.

(c) and (d) No reports have been received of domestic traders incurring heavy losses due to excess import of pulses.

Application of Agricultural Research

*231. SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI: SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of our agricultural research findings have remained confined to laboratories and technical journals; and

(b) if so, the details and what measures are proposed to be taken to see that the benefit go to the farmers in the field?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No, Sir.